

Appln. No.: 10/711,590
Amendment dated April 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 8, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action of February 8, 2006, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Claims 1, 14, 16, 20, 31, and 37 have been amended, claims 13 and 17 have been canceled, and no new claims have been added. Claims 1-12, 14-16, 18-47, 49-56, and 58-61 thus remain pending in this application. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Claims Rejections

Claims 1, 3, 7-11, 13, 20, 22, 26-31, 33-37, 39, and 42-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Henrick *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,507,727, hereinafter Henrick).

Claims 1, 2, 12, 14-16, 18-21, 32, and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wegener (U.S. Pat. No. 6,490,432) in view of Henrick.

Claims 4-5, 23-24, 40 and 41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henrick in view of Levy (U.S. Pat. No. 6,505,160).

Claims 6 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henrick in view of Callway *et al.* (U.S. PGPUB No. US2003/0027517, hereinafter Callway).

These rejections are respectfully traversed. Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate allowable claim 17, including intervening claim 13. Claim 1 and claims dependent therefrom are now in condition for allowance. Applicant has amended claims 14 and 16 to correct claim dependencies.

Applicant has amended independent claims 20, 31, and 37 to incorporate similar features as allowed claim 17, including intervening claim 13, and respectfully submits that claims 20, 31, and 37, and claims dependent therefrom, are also in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

All rejections having been addressed, Applicant respectfully submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicits prompt notification of the same. However, if for any reason the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for

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allowance or there are any questions, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at
(202) 824-3153.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated this 5 day of Apr., 2006

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